

THE SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY.
HENRY R. WEST,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.



"A union of hearts, a union of hands,
A union of States none may sever;
A union of lakes, a union of lands,
And the FLAG of our UNION FORVER!"

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1858.

JOHN G. CARLISLE comes nearer than any other man in his party to filling the measure of THUROUN's greatness.

The King of Servants went into Bulgaria with all the pomp and panoply of a conqueror, and went out like a "yellow dog" with a tin kettle tied to his tail.

The micrometers say that silver won't circulate; that the people won't have it. Neighbor how many silver dollars have you handled since you have received gold coin?

The pictures of HINDRICKS which have lately been going the rounds of the news papers give about as correct an idea of his appearance as would the inspection of a signal service weather map.

A few disgruntled Democratic papers can't see anybody in the Democratic party but the political pirates whom they worship and the political dukes whom they scorn. These two classes are mere warms upon the great, honest, and robust body of Democracy.

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The War Department has exposed the rotteness of the Coast Survey Bureau and the prodigy of the Court of Alabama Claims, and put a stop to their extravagance. It has also uncovered and suppressed numerous other raids on the Treasury which have been allowed to continue for years without question or dispute.

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There can be no more touching spectacle than to see the Wall street Shylocks breaking their hearts because poor men have to take the "eighty-cent silver dollar." The fact that the poor man can buy as much with the silver dollar as he could with a gold dollar does not seem to mitigate the pangs of their grief.

The distribution of the "spoils" among the "victors" caused the death of GANSHORN, sent into political banishment, the greatest of all E-publicans—ROSEON CORLEONE; it was the most potent agency in weakening the Republican party, and was threatening the Democratic party with dismemberment. Civil service reform began none too soon.

The essence of the "spoils system" in politics is to snuff out the business of the country to the successful political intriguer, the master of political chicanery, the heel who can run his wedge to confide in a man because of his knowledge—to offer a premium on political trickery—to make the party cheat helpfully for cheating it.

A MR. HAGARD, of Connecticut, has published a learned essay in which he attempts to show to wool growers that they would get higher prices for their wool if there were no duty on imported wool. This is a little "cheeky." I assume that men who have devoted their lives to growing wool don't know whether they want it protected or not until they are told by a man who possibly don't know a sheep from a goat.

Receipts Falling Off.

The annual report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue which appeared some days ago, shows a decrease in the receipts from the tax on spirits of over nine million dollars. The decrease is partially due, it is said, to the large stock of liquors found on hand which had already paid the tax. If the receipts are a fair gauge of the amounts of distilled liquors sold and consumed—and they doubtless are—it would seem that the use of strong drink was decidedly on the decline in this country. The report shows a slight increase, however, in the receipts from fermented liquors, which indicate that beer, ale and like milder beverages are taking the place of the stronger drink.

It is quite apparent that public opinion is undergoing a change in regard to the use of alcoholic stimulants; and excessive drinking, which a few years ago was not regarded as very objectionable, is now looked upon everywhere as an intolerable weakness. Among politicians even, the habit of hard drinking is going out of practice, and very few Congressmen are now found who indulge in excess, and many are known to abstain entirely. The idea that a cocktail or a toddy is essential to the complete happiness or success of any one in any business or situation has been exploded; and it is now coming to be understood that one who abstains from the use of stimulants in any form is better equipped for the business of life than he who indulges even moderately. In other words it is becoming to be found out that liquor of any kind as a beverage is not useful to the individual in the struggle for existence. It is doubtless true, that, in any great contest where all the mental and physical powers are called into requisition for any great length of time, he who is frosty from intemperate habits would stand the best chance of coming out ahead in the end. And that knowledge has probably contributed more to produce the change in public opinion on the subject of drinks than anything else.

The agitation of the temperance question may have had something to do with the change, but the advocates of prohibition would scarcely admit that their arrangements, while lessening the use of whiskey, had increased the demand for beer.

A BRANCH of THE SPIRIT writes to ask for the origin of the appellation "plumed knight" as applied to Mr. BLAINE. It was first thus applied by BOB IRVING in placing BLAINE's name before the Republican National Convention in 1876. The speech in which it occurred made "FAGAN BOY" famous, and nearly made BLAINE President.

The following is the passage in which it was used: "Like an armed warrior, like a plumed knight, JAMES G. BLAINE marched down the halls of the American Congress and threw his shining lance full and fair against the brazen foreheads of the defenders of his country and the mailed lions of his honor."

In the last Presidential campaign "BOB IRVING," as DON PLATT called him, did not raise his voice for his former idol.

COMMENTS ON VARIOUS TOPICS.

What Has Been Done.

In the excitement and confusion incident to a change of administration—indeed, perhaps, by many harmless contests over the office—the results accomplished by the change are in danger of being overlooked or forgotten. The Republican newspaper, anxious to exert the full force of the exposures, seek to direct public attention from the work, failing in that they endeavor to destroy the effect by discrediting and belittling the performance. And even some Democratic journals would depreciate the value of work done by giving some attention to less important matters. But the fact remains that very substantial progress has already been made in the work of administrative reform, as a brief examination of the record will show.

In the Navy Department, the work of renovation was begun early and still continues. The gigantic frauds perpetrated in the construction of vessels have been exposed—radical changes in the management of the department have been instituted—the Revenue—REACH ring has been broken up, and this branch of the public service has been freed from "the rotteness that has infected alike the vessels of the navy and the administration of the department." In the Post Office important reforms have also been made, and a policy adopted which renders theft, robbing and subsidizing more irksome and far less attractive than in the days of HAYES and AARON.

In the Interior Department, the Indian troubles and the abuses of the Land Office have received special attention, and reforms have been instituted of inestimable value to the people. The intruders upon the Indian lands have been taken in hand and driven out, and vast areas of the public lands which have been occupied and fenced in by rich corporations and syndicates, without shadow of authority, have been restored to the Government. The land grants to the subsidized railroads have been overhauled, and large sections of the public domain which have been claimed and held for years by these corporations without any legitimate title, to the exclusion of settlers, have been reclaimed and thrown open to entry.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

County Commissioners.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS AND ORTH.

WOODFIELD, OHIO, Sept. 7, 1858.

To the Honorable Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the Second Judicial District of the State of Ohio:

Agreeably to section 917, Volume I, Title

8, Chapter 1, of the Revised Statutes of the State of Ohio, the County Commissioners

of Monroe County, Ohio, herewith submit

a detailed statement of its financial transac-

tions for the year ending the first Monday of September, 1858, to wit:

GENERAL RECEIPTS.

Balance in Treasury, \$10,000.00

Amount paid in Taxes,

on Auditor's certi-

cates 2,024.41

State Committee School

fund from State 14,078.50

Interest on section 30

from State 2,647.87

Amount collected on Duplicate

for 1858.

State taxes \$11,625.83

County taxes 26,194.25

Bridge taxes 3,343.85

Rent taxes 8,669.55

Township taxes 2,970.84

Corporate taxes 5,184.44

County school tax 28,619.13

Corporation taxes 8,190.70

(PATE-

ment) 61.32

Dog taxes 2,902.35

Liqueur trade \$14,105.702.43

Total \$41,671.53

EXPENDITURES.

Orders released and

deposited \$9,395.53

Bank receipts 3,327.71

Amount paid to State \$15,721.05-12,447.23

Balance in Treasury \$5,128.74

G-C-T EXPENSES—MISCELLANEOUS.

Jas R Morris, incoming County Treasurer

J. Franklin, jail well 2.40

M K Price & Son, collectors, lime, &c. 4.15

W C Moore, auditorate coal 38.05

P O Bliniger, training children to Blind Asylum 20.00

J B Jones, Examining Commissioners Report 1.00

Jas Watson, examining Clerk 21.00

A F Kinsley, repairing office clocks 2.50

M Bost, cleaning privy vanities 2.00

John Pool, cleaning chamber 1.25

C M Atkinson, bunching old papers for Probate 1.00

Hollings & Stoohs, case for Probate 25.00

W H Mallory, inspecting County Treasurer 15.00

J F Spriggs, inspecting County Treasurer 15.00

TOWNSHIP ASSESSORS.

H R Nello, Adams \$60.00

S F Ferguson, Ren 64.00

R J Marlin, Beal 46.00

R D Owen, Cee 78.00

J H Baker, midwife 74.00

Jacob Reinhart, midwife 74.00

R W Moore, midwife 54.00